

COMPENSATION FOR OVERFLIGHT VELOCITY WHEN STABILIZING AN  
AIRBORNE CAMERA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for maintaining the line of sight of an airborne camera fixed on a target by compensating for overflight velocity of the aircraft. The compensation system automatically commands an angular velocity of the line of sight to maintain the camera pointing at the target being overflown. This angular velocity of the line of sight is computed based upon the aircraft overflight velocity and upon a vector from the aircraft to the target. This automatic compensation for aircraft overflight velocity causes the line of sight to remain fixed upon the target. The compensation system drives a gimbal system upon which the camera is mounted to perform this compensation automatically.